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opposed, Mr. Buxton dictated one morning, at breakfast, the form of a petition which, being quickly sent to the principal towns of the kingdom, received the signatures of firms representing above one thousand bankers. It was presented by Mr. Brougham, and had great effect in procuring a majority in the House of Commons against the punishment of death for forgery. The merciful and intelligent Lords reversed the decision ; but the question was virtually decided by the vote of the Commons ; and no execution for forgery has, since that vote, taken place in Great Britain.

“In succeeding years, the infliction of capital penalties was more and more reduced by the efforts of Mr. Ewart, Mr. Lenard, and others, to whose exertions Mr. Buxton always gave, while he remained in Parliament, his strenuous assistance ; and it is satisfactory to know that the number of crimes, now legally punishable with death, is reduced from two hundred and thirty to eight or nine ; and that, practically, no executions now take place in England or Wales, except for murder or attempts to murder.” p. 247.

We are now come to the great labor and achievement of Mr. Buxton's life—the emancipation of the slaves in the British colonies. His previous exertions, which we have briefly noticed, had developed his powers, displayed his force, and won the respect and confidence of his contemporaries. Wilberforce had seen in him the qualities fit for carrying out those plans, which, as he was conscious, required a younger and more vigorous champion than himself. But our space fails us ; and the hasty sketch which we propose to give of the crowning work of Mr. Buxton's life must be reserved for our next number.

ART. IV. — *Dalmatia and Montenegro : with a Journey to Mostar in Herzegovina, and Remarks on the Slavonic Nations ; the History of Dalmatia and Ragusa, the Uscocs, &c.* By SIR J. GARDNER WILKINSON, F. R. S., &c. London : John Murray. 1848. 2 vols. 8 vo.

THE countries that form the eastern coast of the Adriatic have been but seldom visited and described by modern trav-

ellers. They lie out of the road to Italy and Greece, the superior attractions of which draw an annual crowd of visitors, whose love of art, of antiquities, of picturesque scenery, and historical associations, is satiated without a journey into the neighboring province of Dalmatia, rich though this country is, — and rich as it would be esteemed in any other vicinity, — in objects of interest to the scholar and the philosophical observer of mankind. Illyricum, which included Dalmatia, was for many centuries an important province of Rome, the vestiges of whose power, art, and magnificence remain there to this day. The eastern coast of Italy has scarcely one good harbor, while the opposite shore of the Gulf, skirted by a whole fleet of islands, and deeply broken by bays, peninsulas, and promontories, afforded every needful resource to the mariner and the ship-builder. Hence it became the naval arsenal of the Romans; and in modern times, Ragusa and some of its other ports have been renowned for their shipping. Liburnia, at its northern extremity, sent forth those famous galleys, remarkable for their light construction and swiftness, by the aid of which Augustus obtained his great victory at Actium. Dalmatia was the native country of one of the greatest of the later Roman emperors, who, after he had become weary of governing the world, resigned the sceptre, and returned thither, to plant cabbages and moralize over the vanity of all earthly things. The stately palace, which this imperial philosopher reared for his abode during the wiser part of his life, yet stands, its vast walls enclosing nearly nine acres of ground, to impress the moral of his story more deeply upon the minds of succeeding generations.

The history of Dalmatia during the Middle Ages, also, though it may not affect the imagination so strongly as the record of Roman dominion there, is rich in incidents and great names. This region was a favorite battle ground of the Avars and Slavonians, the Venetian, the Hungarian, the Turk, and the Greek. Its rugged and mountainous surface and deeply indented coast, though not favorable to warlike operations on a great scale, afforded many a stronghold and safe place of retreat, which served to protract an obstinate partisan struggle. Armies were destroyed by ambuscade in its mountain gorges, while the intricate passages among its islands sheltered many a horde of pirates, who preyed on the rich commerce of the

Venetians. The wave of Turkish invasion, which more than once threatened to engulf all Europe, was broken and repelled from these rocky passes guarded by hardy mountaineers. Republicans find shelter in the mountains when they are driven from the plains, as if the pure air of their cold summits could only be breathed by freemen: Dalmatia, like Switzerland, can boast of many hardy little republics, which maintained their independence for centuries; and one of which, at least, continues to this day, and is a thorn in the side of the Ottoman. Many of the arts and comforts of civilized life, it is true, are kept out by the same causes which help to repel armed invaders. He who travels in this wild region must be a rough rider, and remain content with homely fare. For this reason, among others, the country has not been often visited by *dilettanti* travellers and seekers after the picturesque; many of its antiquities and striking natural features remained but partially described, and the character and pursuits of its inhabitants were but little known.

We rejoice, therefore, that a diligent scholar and explorer like Sir Gardner Wilkinson, well equipped with philological and antiquarian lore, has made a study of this interesting region, has patiently sailed, ridden, or trudged over the whole ground, and has now given us the results of his personal observations, illustrated by all that can be gleaned, pertaining to the subject, from ancient chronicles and modern researches in philology and ethnography. His volumes, in booksellers' phrase, are sumptuously "got up," the author's skilful pencil and the engraver's art having contributed largely to their adornment. If the work is in any respect open to criticism, it must be on the ground that the writer's learning is almost oppressive, and is not so thoroughly digested and assimilated with the personal narrative as to suit the appetite of the moderns for light reading. Our traveller is more frequently an instructive than an amusing companion; and many readers will therefore undertake no more than what we have proposed as the limit of our own endeavors; namely, to skim the cream of the book, and leave its weightier matters for subsequent study and reference. The information afforded is not absolutely of the latest date, as the author's visit to the country appears to have been made in 1844; and the revolutionary storm, which has since shaken every kingdom in Europe, may

have produced some agitation of the political elements even in regions so remote and obscure as those which are here described. The author alludes in his preface to these changes "perplexing monarchs," and says that, although his observations on the Slavonic movement, and some other topics, were penned before the commotions occurred in Austria, he has not seen cause to modify any thing that he had written. His introductory chapter, therefore, which relates to the origin, condition, and prospects of the Slavonic race generally, and especially of that portion of it which forms the bulk of the population of Dalmatia and Montenegro, must be considered as the result of his latest study and observation.

Of the Slavonic language he observes, that it belongs to the Indo-European family, and that the people who speak it must have emigrated from Central Asia long before authentic history began. That it belongs to the same stock with the Greek, Latin, and German, is proved by its bearing a closer affinity to the Sanscrit than to either of these derivative languages. Some resemblance may even be traced, as this theory would lead us to expect, between the English and the Slavonic, of which the words *stina*, 'stone,' *sestra*, 'sister,' and the use of *yes* as an affirmative, are instances. It is a curious fact, also, that the Slavonians have names for animals which are not natives of the countries they inhabit,—the elephant, the camel, and the monkey, for example; these names are not derived from other European languages, and therefore must have been brought with them on their migration from the original birthplace of mankind, where these creatures abound. The usual derivation of the name Slavonian is from *Slava*, 'glory,' which is frequently used in the composition of names; as *Vladislav*, 'ruler of glory.' It is a curious and even affecting circumstance, that the race being less warlike than the nations with whom they came in contact, and being also more patient of suffering and servitude than they, have been so generally reduced to bondage, that their name is now used to denote the condition of a *slave*; their patronymic, beginning in *glory*, ends in *servitude*. According to Krasinski, the various dialects of their language may be reduced to two classes, the former being spoken by the western, the latter by the southeastern tribes. The first class includes the Bohemian, from which the Slowack

but slightly differs, the Polish, and the Lusatian languages ; the second comprises the Russian, subdivided into the Great Russian or Muscovite, the Little Russian, otherwise called the Russniak or Ruthenian, and the White Russian ; the Bulgarian, and the Illyrian, which last includes the Servian, Croatian, and Carinthian dialects. It is computed, that the several tribes which use the dialects of the first class number over sixteen millions, while nearly sixty-two millions use those of the second. About one third of the population of Europe, therefore, belongs to the great Slavonic family, and about half of the territory of the continent is in their possession.

“ Of the growing importance of this race, and the influence it is likely to enjoy, we may judge from the fact of its amounting already to more than seventy millions of souls ; and if it has not yet enjoyed the preëminence which has distinguished many other people, this may be attributed to the particular current of events ; and it is reasonable to suppose that it only awaits the opportunity, which appears to be afforded to all nations in their turn, of obtaining celebrity and power.

“ One of its branches has indeed been distinguished in modern times ; and the wars of the Poles with the Turks have rendered their name forever illustrious ; and if Poland has fallen, another nation, whose chief elements are Slavonic, is rising rapidly to power ; and never had that race so great a claim upon the attention of Europe as at the present moment. Already do the Slavonic tribes look to Russia as their head, through whom they hope to rise to a prominent position in the scale of European races ; and anxiously may Europe watch the result of this movement. Even Poland begins to forget the sufferings of Warsaw, in the hope of sharing the honor reflected upon it by the rise of the leading Slavonic power ; the distant and secluded Montenegrin rejoices in the increasing importance of that widely-extended family of which he is a member ; and other Slavonic populations feel the community of origin and religion with the Russian.

“ It is for Germany to watch the result ; and well may it be for Europe, if France, instead of indulging in useless hatred of England, shall prepare for the moment when Russia will call forth the strength of her Slavonic influence.” Vol. I. pp. 4, 5.

We can easily understand why the whole German people should regard with great jealousy and dislike the theory of Pan-slavism, or the project of uniting all the branches of the great Slavonic race into one vast kingdom, which would be able effectually to control the destinies of Europe. Hitherto, they

have been "hereditary bondsmen," until their very name, as we have seen, has become the badge of servitude. They have been scattered and oppressed in consequence of their isolation. Nearly eighteen millions of them, forming half of the population of Austria, have been subjected to the rule of about five millions of Germans, and a little over four millions of Magyars. But they are now beginning to awake to a knowledge of their power and a consciousness of their rights; so that Germany, their nearest neighbor, and one of their severest taskmasters, has reason to regard with dismay the project of their union in government and arms, though she will share the peril ultimately, if not at first, with the greater part of occidental Europe. The instinct of race is strong; the ties of a common origin and a common language are but little weakened by local separation and differences of dialect. The Saxon colonies established seven centuries ago in the valleys of remote Transylvania heard the cry that was raised in 1848 for a United Germany, and were among the first to answer it, though at their own imminent peril, isolated as they were, — by demanding that the German fatherland should extend to every region where the German language was spoken. The Bohemian dialect does not differ more from the Slowack, nor the Croatian from the Servian, than does the Italian spoken by the populace at Naples from that which is heard in the streets of Venice. But the cause of united and independent Italy was supported with equal enthusiasm in both these cities, and Neapolitan volunteers commanded by a Neapolitan general assisted in defending the Queen of the Adriatic against the Austrians.

The startling events of the last two years in Europe have tended as directly and as strongly to consolidate the great Slavonic family, as to unite the Germans and the Italians under their respective national standards. The war in Hungary, as we have recently shown, was not so much a war of political principles as a war of races. Russia knew her own interest well when she interfered to protect the Slavonic tribes south of the Danube, when she ordered Paskiewitch to coöperate with Jellachich and Raiachich, whose euphonious names alone are significant of consanguinity. The Colossus of the North was not moved by any sympathy with Austrian despotism. The united empire of Austria was an obstacle to Russian

aggrandizement, an impediment to the march of a Russian army to Constantinople. The Czar would willingly have seen this obstacle shivered into fragments, this united empire split into several independent kingdoms or distracted republics. But it was of vast importance to him to conciliate the outlying members of the vast nationality of which he is the virtual head, and thus to pave the way for future alliances which will protect his right flank when he comes at last to plant the standard of the cross once more on the shores of the Bosphorus. The greatest of the evils which have resulted from the late rash and unjust, but gallant, attempt of the Magyars to preserve and extend the haughty dominion of their own nationality over the races that have long been subject to them, is, that it has converted Panslavism from a theory into a fact, and from a republican into a despotic movement, by placing the Russian autocrat at the head of it.

That we do not wrongly construe or exaggerate the nature and importance of this agitation of the Slavonic tribes, appears from the following very temperate speculations of Sir Gardner Wilkinson, who wrote, be it remembered, before the recent movements in Europe had flashed a new and strong light upon the subject.

“Time will decide whether Russia knows how to profit by the sympathies of the Slavonic populations, or whether they will unite, to form a distinct nation. Much, it is thought, will depend on the present Panslavistic* movement, and the independent, and enthusiastic wishes of many Slavonians may lead to better results than the support and aggrandizement of Russia.

“The idea of Panslavism had a purely literary origin. It was started by Kollar, a Protestant clergyman of the Slavonic congregation at Pesth, in Hungary, who wished to establish a national literature, by circulating all works, written in the various Slavonic dialects, through every country where any of them was spoken. He suggested that all the Slavonic literati should become acquainted with the sister dialects, so that a Bohemian or other work might be read on the shores of the Adriatic, as well as on the banks of the Volga, or any other place where the Slavonic language was spoken; by which means an extensive literature might be created, tending to advance knowledge in all Slavonic countries; and he supported his arguments by observing, that the dialects of ancient Greece differed from each other,

*Or more properly *Panslavic*.

like those of his own language, and yet that they formed only one Hellenic literature.

"The idea of an intellectual union of all these nations naturally led to that of a political one; and the Slavonians, seeing that their number amounted to about a third part of the whole population of Europe, and occupied more than half its territory, began to be sensible that they might claim for themselves a position, to which they had not hitherto aspired.

"The opinion gained ground; and the question now is, whether the Slavonians can form a nation independent of Russia; or whether they ought to rest satisfied in being part of one great race with the most powerful member of it as their chief. The latter, indeed, is gaining ground amongst them, and some Poles are disposed to attribute their sufferings to the arbitrary will of the Czar, without extending the blame to the Russians themselves. These begin to think that, if they cannot exist as Poles, the best thing to be done is to rest satisfied with a position in the Slavonic Empire, and they hope that when once they give up the idea of restoring their country, Russia may grant some concessions to their separate nationality.

"The same idea has been put forward by writers in the Russian interest; great efforts are making among other Slavonic people, to induce them to look upon Russia as their future head; and she has already gained considerable influence over the Slavonic populations of Turkey.

"Those, however, who are most animated by love of independence, and a regard for national rights, consider it unworthy of them to become tools in the hands of an ambitious power; they advocate the idea of establishing a confederation of the Slavonic States; and think that the regeneration of their race should be entrusted to those who in past times have shown a regard for the free institutions of Slavonians, rather than to the Russians, who have disregarded the nationality of the populations they have absorbed in their gigantic empire.

"It might be difficult to form a different nation, in the midst, and in spite, of powerful kingdoms, whose real, or supposed interests would lead them to interfere; some have therefore thought, since the Hungarians have shown so much hostility to the Slowacks, Croatians, and others connected with them, that Austria, half Slavonian as she is, might be induced to put herself at the head of a Slavonic movement; while some foresee the possibility of establishing a Slavonic empire on the ruins of Turkey. That they would be better suited to take the place of the worn-out Turks than the Greeks, who are given to dream of Constantinople as their capital, is true; and a Christian successor to those Moslem intruders might seem a desirable event, when not entailing the

cession of the Turkish capital to the Czar ; but the attainment of such a result is far from probable ; and the current of Panslavism seems doomed to merge into the main stream of Russian influence, unless a common feeling in favor of liberty unites the Germans with the Slavonic populations.

“ It will be interesting to watch the turn taken by this movement, or by the policy of Russia. The Russians are enacting much the same part as the Macedonians of old ; and the means then used to excite the Greeks against the enemy of their race, may find a counterpart in those now beginning to be employed to rouse the prejudices of the Slavonians. Like the ‘ *Regale Numisma* ’ of Philip, the gold of Russia performs its part ; and the fear of Europe is not, as Napoleon* suggested, when a ‘ bearded Czar ’ shall wield the sceptre, but when Russia shall possess wealth enough to further her projects, and shall command the co-operation of the Slavonic populations. On the other hand, there is reason to believe, that the liberty of Europe will not be endangered by the increasing power of Russia ; she has an encroaching, rather than an invading tendency ; she is unassailable herself, but her system of government, her social condition, and the difficulty she has in keeping up a large army at a distance from home, prevent her being formidable to any but her immediate neighbors ; many of the Slavonians are not disposed subserviently to perform a part to suit her purposes, and so long as the other states of Europe are true to their own interests, no fear need be entertained from the magnitude of her empire.†” Vol. II. pp. 214 – 218.

But from these speculations upon the future of the Slavonians, we turn to their past. There is no record of their migration to Europe, which probably took place at a period anterior to all authentic history. Less warlike than the Germans, they seldom established themselves in any country by conquest, but took quiet possession of lands evacuated by other tribes. But they multiplied and flourished, till their possessions extended from the Don to the Elbe, and from the Baltic to the Adriatic. They had formed their agricultural and commercial habits at the time of the irruption of the Huns, Avars, and other Asiatic tribes, by whom they were regarded as aborigines, or original possessors of the soil. Early in the sixth century, an army of them advanced against Constanti-

* Of the two alternatives mentioned by him, of Europe becoming either Cossack or Republican, the former seems, from recent events, to be by far the least probable.

† Since writing the above, new events have occurred, which may materially change the state of affairs in eastern Europe ; but there is the same reason to believe that much will depend on the conduct of the German and Slavonic populations.

nople, whence they were with difficulty repelled by the arts and arms of Belisarius. Enemies at first, they afterwards became the allies of the Greek emperors, who encouraged them to attack the Avars, by whom they had once been subjugated, but whom they now expelled from Croatia, Servia, and Dalmatia, and whose place they occupied. Their brethren in race, whom they had left behind in the north, remained attached to the inglorious pursuits of peace, and were therefore often spoiled, and at last reduced to bondage, by the northern Germans. So generally have they passed under the yoke, that, according to our author, the Dukes of Mecklenburg are the only true Slavonic dynasty now existing. Those who had established themselves to the south of the Danube, through their alliance with the Byzantine court, and the consequent influence of the Greek clergy to which they were exposed, were converted to Christianity about the middle of the seventh century. Many of the northern Slavonians remained Pagans till a comparatively recent period, the rites of idolatry being practised by them in the isle of Rügen down to 1168.

“The early Slavonians appear, from their ceremonies for the repose of the soul, to have believed in its immortality, and in a future state; though this has been questioned by some writers. Their funerals were celebrated with games and banquets. The favorite horse of the deceased was killed at his tomb; and his body was sometimes burnt, at others buried in the ground. This varied in different tribes; and Nestor relates that, even in his time, which was more than a century after the introduction of the Christian religion into Russia, the Krivitches and Viatches burnt their dead, and laid their ashes in vessels placed on posts near the highways; whilst the Polanes always buried their dead in the earth, even before their conversion to Christianity. But the most remarkable fact connected with their funerals is, that widows generally burned themselves on the funeral piles of their husbands, which cannot fail to call to mind the Suttees of Hindostan; and which, with the remembrance of their language, and the character of their many-faced and many-armed gods, appears to indicate a connection with India. The earliest mention of Suttees in India is in the Vedas, which date eight hundred and eighty years before our era; and they are noticed by Cicero and other ancient writers. But the custom is also said by Herodotus to have existed among the Crestonians of Thrace, and it was found among the Scandinavians.

“The government of the early Slavonic nations had a popu-

lar form, and Procopius tells us 'they obey not the rule of a single man, but from the most remote times have lived under a democracy.' It is, however, certain that though their public affairs were settled by popular assemblies (traces of which have existed till a very late period among some of them,) the executive government was vested in a more limited body, and the supreme jurisdiction was committed to the hands of a sovereign, aided by a senate composed of the wealthy and influential chiefs of the land. Those who came to Dalmatia had their princes; and the Slavonians acknowledged an hereditary sovereign, as well as a class of nobles, from the earliest periods of their history. Nor do those inherited rights interfere with the existence of popular assemblies; the office of ruler of Montenegro is hereditary in the same family, as are the rights of the aristocracy amongst that Slavonic race; though the assembly of the people has always existed there, and has power to deliberate on measures regarding the public good, and even to resist abuses, if attempted by the hereditary chiefs.

"The custom of holding their assemblies in the open air was very ancient, and was adopted by the old republics of Novgorod and Plescow, as well as by that of Poglizza in Dalmatia, till its extinction in 1807; and the same continues in Montenegro to the present day." Vol. I. pp. 24, 25.

The fact that a tribe of Slavonians obtained possession, in the Middle Ages, of the Morea, and held it for more than two centuries, is not often mentioned in history, though it is the only explanation that can be given for the many Slavonic names of places that are still found there, such as Vostitza, Goritza, Slavitza, Veligosti, and others. The name of the peninsula itself is derived by our author from the Slavonic word *móré*, signifying 'the sea.' Fallmerayer, a German historian of the Morea, even maintains that the modern Greek population of this celebrated locality is not composed of the descendants of the countrymen of Miltiades and Socrates, but that they are derived from the Slavonic hordes. But as they use the Romaic, or modern Greek idiom, it is more reasonable to suppose that the ancient inhabitants returned to their former homes after the barbarian invaders had retired, or at any rate, that they mingled their blood with their conquerors. Local names, Fallmerayer argues, can be given only by inhabitants long established in the country; and it is certain that the Slavonic names continue, while many of those mentioned by Pausanias and Procopius have disappeared. On the other

hand, the prevalence of the Romaic language now proves, either that the Slavonians retired in a body, or that they were too few in number, if they remained, to preserve their language and the purity of their blood.

Beginning at Trieste, and passing southward, Sir Gardner Wilkinson seems to have visited all the principal places on the Dalmatian coast before penetrating into the interior. He speaks of Fiume as a picturesque little town, of about eight thousand inhabitants, prettily situated at the head of the gulf, where it is the only outlet of Hungarian commerce to the Adriatic. The possession of this little patch of sea-coast, called the *Littorale*, was long vehemently coveted by the Hungarians, Austria being very loth to give it up to them. It was first ceded by Maria Theresa in 1777, and finally united to Hungary in 1822. The recent war has again deprived her of it, and the proud Magyars, ceasing to rule other races, are now confined to what is the proper Magyarland, — namely, the districts where they constitute the majority of the population. The island of Veglia, a short distance south of Fiume, was an independent republic, though one of the smallest, till the fifteenth century, when Count Frangipani ceded it to Venice. The number of these little republican states which formerly existed in Dalmatia, and the length of time through which they preserved their independence, fully support the assertion, that the Slavonic nations throughout their history have manifested a preference for a popular form of government. Veglia has excellent harbors and a fertile soil ; so that, if cultivated, it might again, as of old, be largely productive of grain, oil, and wine. Our traveller gives copious extracts from a very curious account of it rendered by the Venetian commissioner, who was sent in 1481 to inquire into the state of the island. The government, it appears, was a republic composed of nobles and people, three orders of magistrates being chosen from the former, and one from the latter. The chief of the state was chosen but for one year, during which he was absolute, and governed by the aid of his council.

Zara, the capital of Dalmatia, renowned under the Roman dominion, and afterwards in the wars between the Venetians, Hungarians, and the Turks, is now a little place with less than seven thousand inhabitants. But it is large enough for

the province of which it is the capital, the whole population of which does not exceed four hundred thousand, seven eighths of whom are Slavonians, and about an equal proportion are Roman Catholics. The city has a sea-gate of the Roman time still in tolerably good preservation, and a few other antiquities of that period ; but its most interesting remains bear the stamp of the winged lion of St. Mark, who held the place in his claws for several centuries with a firm grasp. When that gripe was relaxed, the double-headed eagle of Austria pounced upon the city, and has held it ever since in a less rigid, but more enervating embrace. Our traveller tells us that the people, like true, patient Slavonians, are "very quiet under the 'paternal government ;' its policy throws no positive obstacles in the way of improvement, as did that of the Venetians ; and the fault is rather that it fails sufficiently to encourage, than that it directly opposes, beneficial measures." The Duomo, or Cathedral, is a splendid building, one glance at the engraving of which is enough to show its Venetian origin. It was erected in the thirteenth century, by Enrico Dandolo, after the French and Venetian crusaders had captured the city, the motive probably being to avert the displeasure of the Pope, who had severely censured the captors for pillaging the churches. Considering the great religious object that the crusaders professed to have in view, it must be admitted that His Holiness did right to be angry with them for their sacrilegious conduct ; but this was not the first time that the warlike pilgrims seem to have believed that the service of God in Palestine on which they were engaged, afforded an excuse for serving another potentate while on the way thither. Among the other remarkable buildings is a Benedictine nunnery, founded in the year 1066, by the sister of Casimir, king of Croatia. A king of Hungary, who overran Dalmatia half a century afterwards, also erected a tower in the city, which is yet standing. Thus the city abounds in monuments which show how often it has passed from the dominion of one race to that of another, the native Slavonians being almost the only race who have held it without erecting characteristic memorials of their power. The geologist will be interested in Zara for another reason, as it appears that "the land has sunk very much since the time of the Romans, and many ancient pavements have been found beneath the level of the sea."

Spalato, the second city of Dalmatia, derives its name, which is a corruption of *palatium*, from Diocletian's palace, within the precincts of which most of it is built. The massive external walls of this vast and venerable pile, the arches in them being filled up with masonry, have often protected the inhabitants from the attacks of pirates and other enemies. The interior is deformed by a shapeless aggregation of modern houses, which hide many of the most interesting features of the structure; but with some study its general plan can be made out, and portions of it are in high preservation, chiefly because what was erected to the old pagan divinities was afterwards consecrated to the Christian's God, and thus saved from the hand of the spoiler. The temple of Jupiter is now the Cathedral of Spalato, and that of Esculapius has been dedicated to St. John. It is to be feared that these changes of name, in the minds of those who made them, were not accompanied by any very distinct conception of the nature of the alteration; for in a list of relics preserved in a Dalmatian church, we find enumerated, among other things, "remains of St. John Baptist and of *other gods*." Superstition is but a blind guide to ignorance; but in the Middle Ages, it often accomplished the same ends that are pursued by the taste and scholarship of modern times. Besides these temples, some stately colonnades and gates are yet standing, as if to indicate that the imperial philosopher, even after he had abdicated the rule of the Roman world, and retired to plant cabbages at Salona, had not lost all his taste for magnificence and splendor. The "Golden Gate" of his vast palace is still nearly perfect, though the porphyry columns, which once supported a row of seven arches above it, were carried off by the Venetians for the adornment of their own city.

"Ciccarelli states that, when the limits of the palace were found insufficient for the increasing population of Spalato, part of the western wall was pulled down, and a new circuit substituted; and he attributes the falling of the southwest tower to an accident. On this occasion, 'a porphyry sarcophagus was discovered in a cavity, within the thickest part of its walls, bearing the single name of Diocletian in ancient characters. At each corner was a terra-cotta lamp of excellent workmanship, and in the middle of the sarcophagus an urn of Parian marble, containing the ashes.' There was also a sort of medallion, representing a man wearing

a helmet, and armor on his breast, with a beard, whom he conjectures to be the emperor ; accounting for the unusual circumstance of the beard, by supposing that during his retirement he had adopted that custom of his native country." Vol. I. p. 126.

Sir Gardner Wilkinson tells us that the situation and climate of Spalato are very agreeable and healthy ; while the orange and palm trees, which thrive there in the open air, and the many charming views in the neighborhood, show that Diocletian was a good judge in selecting it as the place of his retreat. We also learn from our traveller, that this city is "supposed to be the scene of Shakspeare's Twelfth Night, which he lays in Illyria ;" it may be supposed that it has an equally good claim to be the immortal dramatist's seaport in Bohemia, the exact position of which is a problem that has severely exercised the wits of the geographers. It would be worth while to ascertain what traditions may still be current in Spalato, respecting the later history of Sir Toby Belch and Sir Andrew Aguecheek, whose revels ought not quickly to be forgotten within the very walls where they so often waked the night-owl with a catch.

Ragusa, now the capital of one of the four *Circoli*, or departments, of Dalmatia, is a place of great historical interest, as the head of a little maritime republic, which stoutly maintained its independence for centuries against the assaults both of the Venetians and the Turks. The city was noted from a very early time for its commerce, which extended to every quarter of the globe ; its goodly ships, exceeding in size those which were despatched by the traders of other nations, were first called *Ragosies*, a name subsequently corrupted into *Argosies*, became proverbial from the amount of wealth which they were supposed to carry. Thus the Merchant of Venice is appropriately told, —

" Your mind is tossing on the ocean, —
There, where your *argosies* with portly sail,
Like signiors and rich burghers of the flood,
Or, as it were, the pageants of the sea,
Do overpeer the petty traffickers,
That curtsy to them, do them reverence,
As they fly by them with their woven wings."

Such a rival as Ragusa might well excite the jealousy and cupidity of Venice, whose incessant hostility forced it to seek

friendly relations with the Ottomans, though the valor of its citizens at other times had often stayed the progress of Turkish conquest.

"In 1240, a treaty was made with the Almissans, which proves that the Ragusan commerce already extended to the eastern and western shores of the Mediterranean.

"From that time their trade continued to increase ; and in the fifteenth century, it assumed an imposing character ; which was promoted by the permission, by the Holy See, to trade with the Infidels.

"The friendly relations, existing between the Ragusans and the Porte, enabled them to enjoy an undisturbed traffic, when other flags were exposed to the depredations of the Moslems ; much of the carrying trade fell into their hands ; and the privilege they obtained by treaty, to receive into their port ships of States at war with the Porte, conferred a great benefit on the commerce of Ragusa.

"With Spain their trade was on a very great scale ; and from the number of ships lost when in alliance with that country, some idea may be formed of the extent of the mercantile navy of Ragusa ; more than three hundred captains, with their vessels, having been at various periods in the service of Charles V. and his successors. They also traded with the English and Dutch ; and some of their ships went to India, and to the American coast. With the Dutch they had intimate commercial relations ; and the advantages they enjoyed in England are shown by a letter written to the Senate by Cromwell, who granted them numerous commercial privileges in every English port." Vol. I. pp. 352, 353.

Richard the Lion-Heart, having narrowly escaped shipwreck on his return from Palestine, vowed that he would build a church to the Holy Virgin on the first land that he reached. He landed on the little island of Lacroma, which lies just off the port of Ragusa ; and was proceeding to execute his intention there, when the Ragusans, who had received him with all kindness and respect, entreated him to erect the proposed edifice in their own city, where it would be a more public and generally accessible token of his piety and munificence. He complied, and "having *borrowed* a large sum of money for the purpose, which was increased by donations from the inhabitants, built the Cathedral of Ragusa, which for regularity of design and beauty of ornament, was unequalled in Illyria." This edifice was unfortunately destroyed by the great earthquake of 1667 ; but the Ragusans long rejoiced

that their city had been thus honored by the chivalrous Richard of England. It was shortly after he left them that the Crusader king fell into the hands of perfidious Austria, and underwent his cruel and protracted imprisonment.

In every other city along the Dalmatian coast, the traces of its former occupation by the Venetians are visible; in Ragusa first, says our traveller, the winged lion of St. Mark is nowhere seen. But in other respects, the aspect of the place excites mournful feelings, as it has been repeatedly shivered into ruins by earthquakes, and but few tokens remain of its bygone grandeur and opulence. The commerce of Europe found another way to the East, which did not lie through the cities of the Adriatic, and the sources of their prosperity gradually dried up even before they forfeited their well merited and gallantly defended independence. The rule of the French under Napoleon was too transient in Illyria to produce any marked effect on the character and fortunes of its people; and Austria has fenced round its favorite Trieste with so many special privileges that neither Venice nor Ragusa can any longer compete with it. The manufactures of the latter have ceased to flourish, and the caravans from the Turkish provinces, which once poured wealth into it, now never enter its deserted streets. Its population at present hardly amounts to 6,000, though it was formerly six or seven times as great; and only half a dozen small vessels keep up the shadow of its departed commerce. Ragusa lives only in her history, which is an honorable record of a gallant and long continued struggle for independence, and of a liberal and judicious policy, which always afforded an asylum to exiles from other lands, and kept up for two centuries the only peaceful communication that existed between Christian Europe and the Turks.

The ancient form of government at Ragusa was an aristocratic republic, not unlike that of Venice. There were three divisions of the inhabitants, — the nobles, the commons, who were the trading class, and the artisans, — the last having no share in the government. The chief of the republic, who was first called *Priore*, then *Count*, and lastly *Rettore*, was appointed by the council of nobles, and held his office for only one month. He kept the keys of the city, and might convoke the Councils, but had only one vote in them, like any other senator. The general harmony of the several classes

of the inhabitants was seldom disturbed, as "the patriotic conduct of the nobles prevented that discord, arising from the clashing interests of the aristocracy and people, which occasioned such incessant feuds in other republics." Great care was bestowed on education, and the more wealthy citizens sent their sons to the universities of Italy, that they might have the benefit of the best instruction. The consequence was, that the Ragusans spoke Italian with greater purity than the other Dalmatians, and many of them became distinguished in literature and science. The names of Ghetaaldi and Father Boscovich, both natives of this city, occupy a high place in the history of European science and philosophy.

The most interesting portion of Sir Gardner Wilkinson's book is his account of the little independent state of Montenegro, a country not much over eighty square leagues in extent, and peopled by about 100,000 Slavonic mountaineers, whose bravery and hardihood have repelled all the efforts of their Christian and Mohammedan invaders for centuries, and maintained their freedom and their ancient form of government down to the present time. They still keep up incessant war with the Turks, and many of them, like the mosstroopers of the Scottish Border in former days, get a livelihood only by their frequent predatory incursions into the neighboring provinces. They cannot muster more than 20,000 fighting men; yet the whole Ottoman power, though often exerted for this purpose, has never sufficed to drive them out of their mountain fastnesses, or to weary them into submission. They are governed by a Prince-Bishop, of the Greek church, who is called their *Vladika*, and whose regal, sacerdotal, and military functions are somewhat oddly blended together. The office is hereditary in one family; but as the *Vladika* is a consecrated bishop, and cannot marry, the succession always falls to a nephew or other relative, in a manner which rather confounds one's idea of the doctrine of apostolic succession. There is nothing very apostolic about the present *Vladika*, who is commander-in-chief of the Montenegrin army, and, according to our traveller, "can point a cannon or a rifle with more precision than any man in Illyria." He is the only modern representative of that class of military bishops, so numerous in the Middle Ages, who were more frequently seen with sword and cuirass than with mitre and crosier, and who

did good service in the wars of the church militant. The personal qualities of the present Vladika are well suited to command the respect of a primitive and warlike race; he has a handsome face and finely proportioned figure, is about six feet eight inches in height, and can hit with a rifle ball a lemon thrown into the air by an attendant. His usual costume is a military one, very rich in its materials, and duly garnished with ornaments and weapons; but he can quickly slip on his pontifical robes, when there is occasion for them, and administer ghostly counsel to his friends, or hurl excommunication against those of his enemies who happen to be out of musket shot. He is not only the high priest and military chieftain of his people, but their judge, legislator, and instructor; the power of life and death, peace and war, is in his hands. Yet he is not absolute, his authority being in some degree controlled by a kind of senate, consisting of twelve members, and by a necessary respect for the customs and prejudices of a free-spirited people. Our author bestows high praise upon the present Vladika, whom he represents as a highly educated gentleman, of very expanded views, courteous in manners and chivalric in feeling, who has nobly devoted his private fortune to relieving the necessities of his people, and has tasked all his energies in the attempt to introduce some necessary reforms among them, and to improve their social condition.

“The general aspect of Montenegro is that of a succession of elevated ridges, diversified here and there by a lofty mountain peak, and, in some parts, looking like a sea of immense waves turned into stone. Trees and bushes grow amidst the crags; and, in the rugged district of Cevo, the fissures in the rocks are like a glacier, which no horse can pass without breaking its legs. The mountains are all limestone, as in Dalmatia; but in no part of that country do they appear to be tossed about as in Montenegro; where a circuitous track, barely indicated by some large loose stones, calling itself a road, enables a man on foot with difficulty to pass from one ascent to another; and some idea of the rugged character of the country may be formed, from the impression of the people themselves, who say that “when God was in the act of distributing stones over the earth, the bag that held them burst, and let them all fall upon Montenegro.” Vol. I. pp. 411, 412.

Our author tells many stories, both of old and recent date, some of them rather tough ones, about the bravery and spirit

of this people, either as manifested by individuals, or by large bodies of them, who resisted and drove back the numerous and well appointed Turkish armies, which at various times have attempted to penetrate and subdue their territory. Their mode of fighting is adapted to the natural advantages of their country for defence ; and we can well believe that it would be successful, in spite of immense odds in point of numbers, against the unskilful tactics of the Turks. They select a fit place for an ambuscade in one of their wild mountain passes, where every man of them can lie concealed on the heights among the rocks and bushes ; and when the enemy have fairly entered the defile, which has no appearance of being garrisoned, a close and well directed fire is opened upon them from all quarters, which it is hardly possible for them to return with any effect. From their strength, swiftness of foot, and acquaintance with the passes, it is vain to attempt to pursue them ; and if driven from one spot, they quickly congregate in another, to renew the harassing struggle. The farther a hostile army gets engaged in this wild and broken district, the more difficult it becomes for them to advance, and the more dangerous to retreat ; so that most of the invading troops have left their bones to whiten in the valleys of this unassailable region. "Never did the Turks make an inroad upon Montenegro, whether in large or small numbers, without paying dearly for the injuries they inflicted."

The Montenegrins, it must be confessed, are a nation of freebooters, whose mode of life reminds one of the ancient Highland clans, when these supported themselves by their forays into the country of their neighbors, bringing off cattle and household goods. The former, however, are good Christians of the Greek church, who would deem it flat heresy to rob their brethren in the faith, while they wage a perpetual and internecine war with infidels on conscientious principles. Their houses, or huts, are very rude in construction, built without chimneys, and having little more furniture than the better class of Irish cabins. Though the climate is severe, the country being elevated and bleak, and the tops of the mountains covered with snow for many months in the year, the poorer people lie on the floor of bare earth, and count it no hardship to sleep often in the open air, on a bench made of stones and mud. In some districts, potatoes are the chief article of

food, and the supply even of these is frequently not abundant, when the crops are short and their recent forays have not been productive. We might expect, then, as in the case of Ireland, that there would often be more mouths than food; and the constant war with the Turks, by keeping down the numbers of the people, really saves many from a lingering death by starvation.

Whether in or out of the house, the Montenegrin always sleeps in his clothes, with his weapons at his side; and thus, the instant that an alarm is given, he is ready for action. Both sexes, of course, are hardy and robust, the women being accustomed to perform all the drudgery, even to the carrying of heavy burdens over their rough mountain paths. The men, when not engaged in war or driven to unusual exertions from the want of food, are inclined to do little but smoke, chat, and sleep, while the females pursue their tasks with little intermission. Considering the hardships to which they are exposed, the number of instances of longevity among them is remarkable. A French traveller visited a family which reckoned six generations, a child two years old playing by the side of its ancestor, who had seen 117 winters. Early marriages are not unusual, as several of the members of this family were but seventeen years older than their first-born.

“Though so near the sea that a stone might almost be thrown into it from the mountains overhanging Cattaro, the Montenegrins have no port; nor does their territory, in any part, come down to the shore; and they are dependent on the Austrians for permission to pass all goods intended for exportation, or received from abroad, by the Adriatic. This is a great disadvantage to the Montenegrins, and it would certainly be highly conducive to their prosperity and to their progress in civilization, if their territory reached to the sea, and enabled them to enjoy the advantages of direct commercial communication with other people. It would not, however, be desirable, either for themselves or others, that they should have possession of any stronghold like Cattaro, which they once greatly coveted; and nothing would be required but a port for the purpose of trade. A road for civilization would thus be opened into the interior, which might tend to a peaceable, and commercial, intercourse with the Turks of Bosnia and Herzegovina, and bid fair to improve the condition of those who profited by it; and while we admit the impracticability of giving a port to Montenegro, we may hope the Austrians will take advantage of the opportunity they have, of conferring and deriving the bene-

fits likely to arise from a more intimate communication with all those countries." Vol. I. pp. 426, 427.

Of the language of the Montenegrins, Krasinski remarks, "it is considered the nearest of all the Slavonian dialects to the original Slavonic tongue; *i. e.* that into which the Scriptures were translated by St. Cyril and Methodius, in the ninth century, and which continues still to be the sacred tongue of all the Slavonian nations who follow the Eastern Church." Russia, ever watchful to obtain allies who may favor the progress of her armies in southern Europe, has not been unmindful of the common origin and religion of her own people and the Montenegrins. She has subsidized them for their services in distracting the attention and dividing the forces of Turkey; and even now pays them a yearly contribution of nearly 50,000 florins, which defrays more than half their government expenses. While the French held Illyria in the commencement of the present century, these brave mountaineers acted in concert with the English and the Russians, and were not the least formidable opponents whom the veteran troops of Napoleon had to encounter. It was natural, therefore, that in the general arrangement of European affairs at Vienna in 1815, Russia should befriend them, and prevent the cession of their territory to the conglomerate empire of Austria, or the sacrifice of their independence to the obsolete claims of the Sultan. Surrounded by their hereditary enemies, the Turks, their Vladika was obliged to seek the protection of some one of the great powers of Europe, and he could not long hesitate as to the choice. The immediate vicinity of the Austrian troops in Dalmatia was more dangerous to the independence of the Montenegrins than the remote position of Russia; and the power of the Czar is still near enough to accomplish all that was needed in their behalf. These Children of the Mist are therefore devoted to the Russian interest. Our traveller remarks, "their attachment to the Czar, the dependence they feel upon his aid, their undisguised hatred of other nations, and the spirit of Pan Slavism that pervades Montenegro, abundantly proves the use that will be made of these mountaineers, if ever the objects of Russia require their coöperation, together with others of the same race in the Ottoman empire; whose heterogeneous composition is partly made up of Slavonic ingredients." *En attendant*, the Montenegrins fight the

Turks on their own account, and also have an occasional brush with the Austrians, to whom, on account of their predatory habits and republican principles, they are very troublesome neighbors.

Sir Gardner Wilkinson gives an amusing account of his excursions in Montenegro, where he was received with much courtesy by the Vladika, and by the common people with as much hospitality as their circumstances permitted. But we cannot follow him in his wanderings, having already bestowed as much space upon his book as our limits will permit. His volumes, on the whole, afford more materials for grave study and meditation than for the entertainment of the passing hour, so that the lovers of very light reading will be apt to pass them by altogether. But he writes without prejudice or pretension, and throws considerable light upon what has recently become a political problem of no small moment,—the condition, tendencies, and prospects of the great Slavonic race in Europe.

ART. V. — 1. *The Pre-Adamite Earth*. By JOHN HARRIS, D. D., President of Cheshunt College, Author of the "Great Teacher," "Great Commission," "Mammon," etc. Boston: Gould, Kendall & Lincoln. 1847. 12mo. pp. 294.

2. *Man Primeval: or, the Constitution and Primitive Condition of the Human Being*. By JOHN HARRIS, D. D. Boston: Gould, Kendall & Lincoln. 1849. 12mo. pp. 480.

THESE volumes are on *a priori* cosmogony and anthropogony, and are the first volumes of a series of *a priori* constructions, among which are to be a treatise on domestic, and one on political economy, a gospel, and a sketch of the ultimate earthly destiny of humanity. The author is a fervently religious, and a sufficiently (though we see no reason for saying a profoundly) learned man. We are inclined to think that his true province is that of parænetic theology; and though his style has always been too diffuse to suit our taste,